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WASTE MANAGEMENT OF ARIZONA BREAKS GROUND ON NEW SINGLE-STREAM RECYCLING FACILITY

Surprise, Ariz. – April 1st, 2009 – Waste Management of Arizona today announced its plans to build a new single-stream recycling materials recovery facility in Surprise, Arizona. A groundbreaking ceremony will take place on April 9th, from 11am-1pm, at WM Northwest Regional Landfill located at 19401 W. Deer Valley Road.

The 65,000 square foot facility will have the capacity to process up to 150,000 tons of recyclables per year, and will be the latest and most advanced single-stream recycling operation in the state.

“This new facility will increase the processing capacity for residential and commercial recyclable materials in the Phoenix Metro area, as well as northern Arizona” said Dan Vermeer, market area vice president for Waste Management. “We are proud that this new facility will have a positive impact on both the local economy and our environment.”

The facility will employ advanced recycling technology including magnets, screens and optical scanners to automate the sorting of recyclables. The efficiency of the single-stream process, a system that allows customers to put all their recyclables into one bin, can greatly improve local recycling programs. It can increase capacity, resulting in an average recovery of up to 30 percent more while maintaining and even improving the quality of traditional recycling processes. Items recycled at the facility create an environmental benefit because recycling materials such as paper, aluminum, and metal helps protect valuable natural resources, saves energy, promotes clean air and water, and conserves landfill space.

“We are dedicated to being good stewards of the environment, making our communities safer, cleaner and better places to live and work,” said Patrick DeRueda, president of Waste Management Recycle America. “Our investment exemplifies Waste Management’s commitment and leadership as North America’s leading recycler by offering communities and businesses economically sustainable recycling options.”

Waste Management operates 33 single-stream recycling facilities across the country, including one in Phoenix and Tucson. These facilities are a part of WM Recycle America’s plan to make it easier for people to recycle and positions Waste Management as the first major solid waste company to focus on single-stream recycling.

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This facility is part of Waste Management's sustainability initiative committing the company to nearly tripling the amount of recyclables it manages by 2020.

About Waste Management

Waste Management of Arizona and 980 employees provide waste and recycling services to nearly 500,000 customers throughout Arizona.

Waste Management, based in Houston, Texas, is the leading provider of comprehensive waste management services in North America. Our subsidiaries provide collection, transfer, recycling and resource recovery, and disposal services. We are also the largest residential recycler in North America and a leading developer, operator and owner of waste-to-energy and landfill gas-to-energy facilities in the United States. Our customers include residential, commercial, industrial, and municipal customers throughout North America. To learn more visit www.wm.com or www.thinkgreen.com.

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